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# Wabash Plain Dealer

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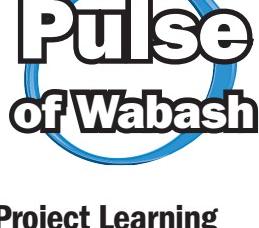


WabashPlainDealer

\$3

WEEKEND EDITION JULY 2-3, 2022

Sunday's weather 85 | 68



## Project Learning Tree Workshop to be held on July 8 at Salamonie Lake

A Project Learning Tree for Early Childhood workshop will be held from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Friday, July 8 at Salamonie Lake's interpretive and nature center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. This free workshop is geared for teachers and families to use with children ages 1 to 6. Participants will receive ideas, instructions and the guidebook, "Trees and Me," which contains hundreds of ideas for fun, easy-to-use, hands-on experiences to connect your children to nature, with a focus on trees and forests. The registration deadline is Tuesday, July 5. Seating is limited. Reservations may be made by calling 260-468-2127. For more information, visit <https://on.IN.gov/salamonielake or dnr.IN.gov>.

## Eagles Theatre to present free movie Mondays

Honeywell Arts & Entertainment will offer free movies at the Eagles Theatre every Monday from July 11 through Aug. 8. Showings will take place at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. in the main Eagles Theatre. Sensory-friendly showings will also be offered at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. in the Ferguson Theatre, and feature lower audio and brighter lighting for safe and comfortable movement and enjoyment of the movie. The movie lineup includes Monday, July 11 - "The Mitchells vs. The Machines"; Monday, July 18 - "Tom & Jerry"; Monday, July 25 - "Peter Rabbit 2: The Runaway"; Monday, Aug. 1 - "Scoob!"; and Monday, Aug. 8 - "Spirit Untamed." Full concession offerings will be available during the free movies including pizza, hot dogs, nachos, mozzarella sticks, pretzels, slushies, candy, popcorn and more. For more information, visit [honeywellarts.org](http://honeywellarts.org).

## Honeywell's Themed Art Competition winners are on display through Monday, July 11

The 2022 Themed Art Competition exhibit is on display through Monday, July 11 in the Clark Gallery at the Honeywell Center. The exhibit features more than 40 works of art by 21 artists, with all pieces featuring a theme of "Upside

See PULSE, page A2

## Inside

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# North Manchester WIC office to close

Wabash location will add extra hours

By ROB BURGESS  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

ciusko, Wabash and Miami counties, announced Thursday that they will close the office at 603 Bond St., North Manchester, effective Friday, Sept. 16.

Community relations director Michelle Boxell said the North Manchester location, which is owned by the North Manchester Parks Department, "does not meet WIC standards."

"After searching available property for possible relocation of the clinic site within

North Manchester, Cardinal Services was unable to find a suitable space," said Boxell. "In addition, the cost of renovating the current clinic site is not fiscally feasible."

In response to a Plain Dealer request Friday, Boxell said the Warsaw WIC office began oversight of the Wabash and Miami counties' WIC offices in October 2021.

"The clinic is all in one room and does not meet

WIC requirements for confidentiality," said Boxell. "It has been that way for quite some time, presumably since they opened that location."

Boxell said the approximately 100 WIC participants who currently use the North Manchester office are free to use any clinic location throughout the state. There are five WIC offices within 25 miles of North Manchester, including the Kosciusko County WIC office, 1515

Provident Drive #120, Warsaw; the Huntington County WIC office, 1255 Engle St., Huntington; the Whitley County WIC office, 220 W. Van Buren St. #106, Columbia City; the Fulton County WIC office, 913 Main St., Rochester; and the Wabash WIC office, 1149 Cass St., which may be reached through free transportation provided by Wabash County

See WIC, page A6

## Summer fun at local libraries continues through July



Provided photos

Wednesdays with WCPL recently featured Ryan "The Lion" Davis from Silly Safaris.

Summer reading programs, activities and more planned

By ROB BURGESS  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

With June turning to July, local libraries are keeping the fun going, including activities, summer reading programs and more.

### WCPL

Wabash Carnegie Public Library (WCPL) community outreach coordinator Rachel Castle said their Summer Reading Program, "Oceans of Possibilities," kicked off June 3 and ends July 16, "and has been building momentum steadily in the following weeks."

"We are delighted with the enthusiastic participation we have seen in this year's summer reading program,"



North Manchester Public Library (NMPL) adult department and marketing coordinator Jeanna Hann said July promises to be another busy month full of summer fun.

said Castle. "We were unsure of what to expect heading into this year's program but, as they have done time and time again, our community

has thrilled us with its overwhelming response in both logging minutes read and attending events."

Castle said the WCPL

Summer Reading Program encourages participants of all ages to keep track of the time

See LIBRARIES, page A5

## Wabash fireworks set for Monday

Children's parade planned for Saturday

By ROB BURGESS  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Wabash's city fireworks display is set for dusk Monday, July 4, with a rain date of Tuesday, July 5, and the Wabash Police Department (WPD) wants to remind residents of Indiana's fireworks laws.

WPD public information officer Capt. Matt A. Benson said fireworks are not permitted on city property.

"The WPD urges citizens to use extreme caution when discharging fireworks," said Benson. "Reckless behavior causing serious injury to someone else could lead to criminal prosecution. The WPD is asking all citizens to be considerate of their neighbor's property

See FIREWORKS, page A6

## Frankfort native hosts fundraiser for veteran families

By CARL GINGERICH  
Frankfort Times Editor

A native Frankfort man is partnering with Skydive Indianapolis to raise money for veterans and veteran families in Indiana.

Event organizer, Michael Prage, will join Skydive Indianapolis and Folds of Honor Indiana to jumpstart a skydiving fundraiser at the Frankfort Municipal Airport at 3009 W. State Route 28 in Frankfort on July 3 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The event will allow for community members to purchase tickets at a discounted rate of \$212, and proceeds will be donated to Folds of Honor to support scholarship opportunities for children of veterans.

"Being a disabled veteran myself, I love that Folds of Honor provides scholarship opportunities for spouses and children of fallen or disabled service members," said Prage. "Some

See FUNDRAISER, page A5

## Wabash among 45 counties to receive Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trails

Allocation ensures paper record for all votes cast in the state by the 2024 General Election

By ROB BURGESS  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

cent state budget allocation for new voting machines systems.

On Wednesday, Secretary of State Holli Sullivan announced the allocation of

funds that will allow for the purchase of Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trails (VVPAT) for counties, ensuring a paper record for all votes cast in the state by the 2024 General Election.

"Being able to guarantee a paper trail for every vote cast in our state is a win for

Hoosiers," Sullivan said. "We know voters want a paper record attached to their vote, and VVPATs help further build confidence in our elections process. I am thankful to the Indiana General Assembly for their help

See VOTING, page A3

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# Indiana pays nearly \$520,000 to law firm for governor's court fight

**By TOM DAVIES**  
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana governor's office racked up more than \$500,000 in legal bills for its successful court fight against an attempt by state legislators to give

themselves more power to intervene during public health emergencies.

The state has paid almost \$520,000 to the Indianapolis law firm Lewis Wagner for its representation of Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb in the lawsuit, according to records from

the state auditor's office. The governor's office didn't immediately reply Friday to a request for comment.

The Indiana Supreme Court agreed with Holcomb, issuing a unanimous decision in early June that the law violated the state constitution.

## PULSE

From page A1

Down." For more information, visit honeywellarts.org.

### Salamonie Senior Luncheon set for Monday, July 11

The monthly Salamonie Senior Luncheon will be held at noon Monday, July 11, at Salamonie Lake Interpretive Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Anyone age 50 or older is welcome to attend. Reena Ramos will share about ACRES Land Trust, a member-supported nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting natural and working lands in northeast Indiana and portions of southern Michigan and northwest Ohio. The program begins with a carry-in meal at noon. Guests should bring a side dish to share, a beverage and their table service. The main dish, pulled pork, is provided by Friends of the Upper Wabash Interpretive Services. A donation will be accepted to help defray costs. Seating is limited. Reservations may be made by calling 260-468-2127. For more information, visit Facebook.com/UpperWabash, https://on.IN.gov/salamonielake or dnr.IN.gov.

### Second Harvest to hold tailgate food distributions

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana has planned a tailgate food distribution for 11 a.m.

Wednesday, July 27 at Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 2147 Indiana 15; and at noon Wednesday, July 13 at Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester. For more information, visit www.curehunger.org, classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182 or https://www.givepulse.com/group/203410.

### Kids Farm Trolley Tour on sale

Visit Wabash County has announced the release of a new interactive and education-focused trolley tour geared toward children. The Kids Farm Trolley Tour will take place on Saturday, July 16. This all-inclusive tour is limited to 34 people and the cost per ticket is \$25. Pick-up locations and times for this tour are 9 a.m. at the Welcome Center in Wabash and at 9:30 a.m. at the Center for History in North Manchester. The tour concludes at 12:30 p.m. The tour will make its way to the Animal Grams homestead where tour participants will interact with the animals raised for the family-owned petting zoo. From chickens to goats, mini pigs and reindeer, children will learn about what it takes to raise and care for each of the animals. The second stop on the tour is Penrod's Dairy Farm. Trolley riders will milk a jersey cow by hand, tour a working dairy farm, and end their day with a hayride around the property. The tour includes kid-friendly refreshments from Bailey's Pizza Parlor. Most of the tour requires

walking on uneven ground. Please wear close-toed shoes or boots. The tour is rain or shine. For more information, visit www.wabashcounty.com/trolley-tours.

### Grow Wabash County to co-host the 4th Annual Japan-Northeast Indiana Summit

Grow Wabash County (GWC) will once again be partnering with the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership and the Japanese American Society of Indiana (JASI) to host the 4th Annual Japan-Northeast Indiana Summit. This year's summit will be hosted from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, July 19 at Eagles Theatre, 106 W. Market St. Admission to this summit is free of charge, but registration is required as space is limited. The primary focus of this year's summit will be the predicted trends of electric vehicles and how these trends will inform future relations between northeast Indiana and Japan. Speakers will also discuss the increasing need for a skilled workforce, the understanding of American and Japanese management styles as well as how northeast Indiana can continue to support Japanese-owned companies in the region. Consul-General Hiroshi Tajima, will also attend the summit to present remarks, but a full list of speakers and a detailed agenda will be announced in early July ahead of the event. For more information, visit www.growwabashcounty.com/2022japansummit

or email sarah@growwabashcounty.com.

### NMHS, Shepherd's Center sponsoring a September trip to southern Indiana

The North Manchester Historical Society (NMHS) and Shepherd's Center are sponsoring a trip from Sept. 6 to 8 to southern Indiana. They will visit Indiana Caverns, Zimmerman Art Glass Demonstration, Turtle Run Winery, Derby Dinner Playhouse and Show, Santa Claus Museum and Abe Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, "with free time and shopping in Nashville on the way home." Several spots are remaining for this trip. The deadline for final payment is July 20. The trip includes two-nights lodging, two breakfasts, one lunch, two dinners and all tips and taxes. Luggage handling and motorcoach transportation is also included. The cost is \$499 per person for double occupancy and \$615 for single occupancy. For more information, write to 314 Sunset Dr., North Manchester, IN 46962; email bernievicki@gmail.com or call 260-982-8734.

### 32nd Annual Wabash County Festivals Scholarship Pageant set for July 22

The 32nd Annual Wabash County Festivals Scholarship Pageant will be held Friday, July 22, in the Ford Theater at the Honeywell Center. On Nov. 12, the newly-crowned queen will compete in the Indiana State Festival Scholarship Pageant in Greenfield, where she will have a chance to win even more scholarship money. Anyone wishing to donate toward the scholarships may do so by sending a check to Wabash County Scholarship Pageant, 73 W. Sheridan St., Wabash, IN 46992. Please mark your check "Scholarship Pageant." The Wabash County Festivals Pageant is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, so all donations are tax-deductible.

### Grow Wabash County's ribbon-cutting ceremony for Summit Pain Management rescheduled

Grow Wabash County will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially welcome Dr. Jared Coffman and the Summit Pain Management team to the Wabash County business community. The ribbon-cutting ceremony was originally scheduled for Monday, June 20, but has been rescheduled for noon Monday, July 25 at 1025 Manchester Ave. Refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

rides to and from the Antique Boutique at Hopewell and a gourmet pretzel tasting. Tables of eight on the upper level can be purchased for \$275 and include entry into the event, a gift basket with wine and drink vouchers from hosting sponsor Market Street Grill, turnovers and cookies from Bailey's Pizza Parlor, bottled water and an invitation to the after-party at the 950 Speakeasy & Bistro in Lagro. Children age 10 and under are free but are required to have a ticket. The event will take place starting at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, July 30 at the Rustic Barn at Hopewell, 2238 N. 500 East, Urbana. This year's event will feature live music on both upper and lower levels of the Rustic Barn at Hopewell and at the Antique Boutique at Hopewell. Along with Branded Bluegrass, other musical acts include, Brad McCord, The Rock Bottom Boys, Caleb Hawkins, Bahlers Golden Age and the return of Cornfields and Crossroads. New this year will be a bourbon tasting provided by Market Street Grill. For \$5, paid at the time of the tasting, bourbon enthusiasts will have the opportunity to select three bourbons from an extensive list and learn about what differentiates them from one another. Poole's Meat Market will be onsite offering country-style meals and non-alcoholic beverages and Market Street Grill will offer two full-menu bars. Outside food and drinks are prohibited at the event. For more information, visit www.visitwabashcounty.com or call 260-563-7171.

### ACRES Land Trust to host the annual Summer Creek Stomp at Hathaway Preserve at Ross Run

On Aug. 13, ACRES Land Trust will host its annual Summer Creek Stomp for ACRES members at Hathaway Preserve at Ross Run, 1866 E. Baumbauer Road.

Participants will make their way through the cliffs and waterfalls at the Ross Run gorge. It's an opportunity to splash in the creek and get a close look at the creek's minnows, pinching crayfish and fossils.

Walking in the creek is only permitted during sanctioned events in cooperation with neighbors. Hernandez said an annual ACRES Land Trust membership is \$20 per household. For more information, visit acreslandtrust.org.

*Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.*

## 5-Day Weather Summary

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Few Showers 84 / 66	Partly Cloudy 85 / 68	Chance T-storms 90 / 71	Scattered T-storms 89 / 70	Scattered T-storms 85 / 68
<b>Sun and Moon</b>				
Today's sunset ..... 9:14 p.m. Tomorrow's sunrise ..... 6:20 a.m.				
First 7/6	Full 7/13	Last 7/20	New 7/28	

### Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a 45% chance of showers, high temperature of 85°, humidity of 57%. South southwest wind 6 to 9 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with a slight chance of showers, overnight low of 66°. North northeast wind 3 to 7 mph.

## Local schools announce summer meal programs

Manchester Community Schools (MCS) will be serving meals this summer to those aged 18 years and younger.

At Manchester Elementary School (MES), meals will be served Mondays through Thursdays through July 14,

except for July 4, at 301 S. River Road, North Manchester.

Breakfast will be served at MES from 7:45 to 8:15 a.m.,

and lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

At Manchester High School (MHS), lunch will be served

Mondays through Thursdays through June 30.

No breakfast will be served at MHS,

but lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

All meals must be eaten on-site

each day.

Wabash City Schools (WCS) summer food program

will last Mondays through

Fridays through July 22 and

will be closed from July 4

to 8, unless otherwise noted.

Wabash Middle School (WMS) will serve breakfast

from 7:45 to 9 a.m., and lunch

from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 150

Colerain St. At the South

Side Fire Station, no break-

fast will be served, but lunch

will be served from noon to

12:30 p.m. at 1470 Vernon St.

At First Friends Early Learn-

ing Ministry, no breakfast will

be served, but lunch will be

served from 11 to 11:30 a.m.

at 110 N. Cass St. At Access

Youth Center, no breakfast will

be served from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at 74 W. Canal St.

YMCA announces

summer meal program

The Wabash County YMCA

has announced meals will

be served Mondays through

Fridays in June and July,

except for July 4. At the

Wabash County YMCA,

breakfast will be served from

8 to 9 a.m., and lunch from

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at 500

S. Cass St. At the Wabash

City Park and lunch will

be served from 11 a.m. to

12:30 p.m. at 800 W. Hill St.

For more information, visit

www.wabashcountymca.org

or email pgodfroy@wabashcountymca.org.

### Tickets are now on sale for Bluegrass at Hopewell

Visit Wabash County has

announced the return of the

Bluegrass at Hopewell live

music event to take place on

Saturday, July 30.

Tickets may be purchased

online or in person.

The event offers two ticket options.

Lawn and lower-level tickets

can be purchased for \$20 each

and guests are asked to bring

their lawn chair or blanket to sit on.

The ticket price includes entry

into the event, Trolley No. 85

by calling Subscriber Services at 260-563-2131.

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# Obituaries

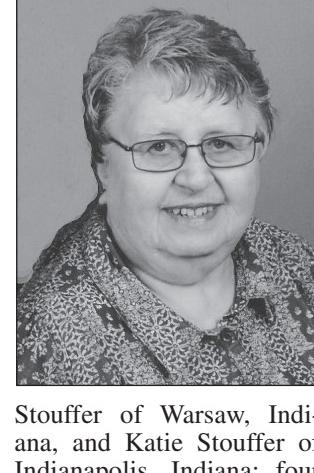
## Doris Irene Stouffer

July 2, 1935 - June 27, 2022

Doris Irene Stouffer, 86, of rural Wabash, Indiana, died at 7:45 am, Monday, June 27, 2022, at Wellbrooke of Wabash. She was born on July 2, 1935, in Lagro, Indiana, to Lawrence James "L.J." Millican and Mamie (Grafft) Millican Riehl.

Doris was a 1953 graduate of Linlawn High School. She married Donald Stouffer at the Wabash Friends Church on May 29, 1955. She worked as a teller at the Wabash Farm Bureau Credit Union and was the bookkeeper at Wabash Friends Church for 20 years. Doris was a member of the Wabash Friends Church, the United Society of Friends Women, and the Linlawn Missionary Society. She taught literacy through the Laubach Way of Reading. Doris served on the Board of Directors and was the bookkeeper of the Wabash Little Friends Day Care. She enjoyed reading, crocheting, sewing, and was a writer of notes to everyone.

She is survived by her husband, Donald Stouffer of Wabash; four children, Diane (Brad) DeWitte of Montgomery, Minnesota, Denise Stouffer, Dale (Kelly) Stouffer, and Dean (Cheryl) Stouffer, all of Wabash; four grandchildren, Parker (Katie) Stouffer of Wabash, Jared (Kari) Stouffer of Wetumpka, Alabama, Jonah



Stouffer of Warsaw, Indiana, and Katie Stouffer of Indianapolis, Indiana; four great-grandchildren, Adrian Stouffer, Riley Stouffer, and Austen Stouffer, all of Wabash, and Trace Stouffer of Wetumpka. She was preceded in death by her parents and her half brother, Vincent Irving Millican.

Friends may call 3-7pm Thursday, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash. Funeral services will be 10:00 am, Friday, July 1, 2022, at Wabash Friends Church, with Doug Dafoe officiating. Burial will be in Friends Cemetery, Wabash.

Preferred memorial is Wabash Friends Church Building Fund.

The memorial guest book for Doris may be signed at [www.grandstaff-hentgen.com](http://www.grandstaff-hentgen.com).

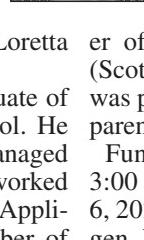
## Edward Jay 'Ed' Gottschalk

Dec. 24, 1963 - June 27, 2022

Edward Jay "Ed" Gottschalk, 58, of Lagro, Indiana, died Monday, June 27, 2022, at his home. He was born on December 24, 1963, in Wabash, Indiana, to James Edward and Loretta M. (Folk) Gottschalk.

Ed was a 1982 graduate of Northfield High School. He was a handyman, managed hog farms, and also worked delivery for Good Appliance. Ed was a member of Dora Christian Church and Tri-State Antique Points Pullers. He enjoyed hogs, pulling tractors, farming, sitting at the junction visiting with friends, and watching the kids showing swine. Ed was also a jack of all trades, who could build anything and everything.

He is survived by three children, Lacy Gottschalk of Lagro, Austin Gottschalk of Platteville, Colorado, and Noell Gottschalk of North Manchester, Indiana, grand-



son, Thomas Flack of North Manchester, and brothers and sisters, Brian (Stephanie) Gottschalk of Wabash, Lori (Troy) Vigar of Lagro, Michael (Tamie) Tucker of Wabash, and Tammy (Scott) Siders of Lagro. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral services will be 3:00 pm, Wednesday, July 6, 2022, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Mark Wisniewski, Minister officiating. Friends may call 1:30 - 3:00 pm, Wednesday at the funeral home. Following the service there will be a funeral dinner at Dora Christian Church.

Preferred memorial is Wabash County 4-H Round Robin.

The memorial guest book for Edward may be signed at [www.grandstaff-hentgen.com](http://www.grandstaff-hentgen.com).

## Peggy D. Workman

Peggy D. Workman, 90, North Manchester, passed away on June 28, 2022 at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She is survived by her son, Kyle (Teri) Workman; daughters, Kathy (Stanley) Singpiel, and Kim (William) McKenzie; brothers, Buford Baker, and James Baker; sisters, Judy (Dennis) Carlson, Linda (Michael) Sumpter, and Debbie Gay; eight grand-

children, eleven great-grandchildren, and one great great grandchild.

Calling hours were Wednesday, June 29 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 State Road 114 West, North Manchester, Indiana. Funeral services were Thursday, June 30 at 11:00 a.m. at McKee Mortuary with calling one hour prior.

"Paper trails boost voter confidence by allowing Hoosiers to independently verify their vote was correctly recorded. Additionally, the paper trails allow for more robust post-election audits and improve the recount process," said Carter.

During her visit to Wabash in December 2021, Sullivan said that while this equipment was not yet introduced during the pandemic for general use, it was "encouraging that you have voters already asking for that."

Sullivan said that when this was rolled out it would be "a voter confidence tool."

"Implementing that next year through your local office will then give us two new aspects. One is the voter confidence that when you push the buttons on your Microvote (direct-recording electronic) voting machine, you will then have the paper printout to verify your vote and have the opportunity to change anything

right then and there if it's not printed the way that you felt was capturing your vote. (You will) be able to update it on-site with a local poll worker and then cast your vote, (and) watch it, as a confidence issue, be counted," said Sullivan.

"The second part of that is since we have a paper trail, we can institute more audits in more counties."

Sullivan said they had already done five post-election audits during the general election in 2020 and eight in the 2020 primary elections.

"But having more VVPATs in each of our counties now allows us to do more in the future," said Sullivan.

Indiana offered the option to request an absentee ballot digitally for the first time in 2020. In the 2020 General Election, Indiana saw an unprecedented number of absentee ballot applications. Nearly 250,000 of those applications were submitted electronically.

On June 6, Sullivan announced the start of post-election audits for the 2022 election cycle, examining the results of the 2022 primary.

## VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON CHURCH SERVICES

### Asbury Country Church

On Sunday, July 3 at Asbury Country Church, 1998 E. 250 South, the Sunday school will be at 10 a.m., and the worship service will be at 10:40 a.m. The worship and music leader will be Amy Bullick, and the piano will be by Roger Marine. The morning message, "Peace and Honor," will be delivered by Pastor Mike Bullick.

### Bachelor Creek Church of Christ

Online services are available by visiting [www.bachelorcreek.com](http://www.bachelorcreek.com).

### Christ United Methodist Church

Worship service will also be live-streamed on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/ChristUMCWabash/](https://www.facebook.com/ChristUMCWabash/).

### Christian Heritage Church

Streaming services online and broadcast on 95.9 FM.

### College Corner Brethren Church

College Corner Brethren Church is now holding in-person services at 10:15 a.m. Sundays at 8996 S. 500 West, with Pastor Solomon David. The sermons are still on YouTube and Facebook.

### Common Ground Prayer House

The Common Ground Prayer House will be open to the public from 8 to 10 a.m. Mondays, except holidays, at 78 W. Hill St. For more information, call Jennifer Mahan at 260-571-8063, Shirley Neale at 260-591-0047 or Debbie Sweet at 260-571-6072.

### Dora Christian Church

On Sunday, July 3, at Dora Christian Church, 2325 S. Salamonie Dam Road, Lagro, the minister will be Mark Wisniewski, the song leader will be Olman Sanchez, the pianist will be Sherry Brock and the organist will be Kristy Good. We have two Sunday morning services at 8:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., with Sunday school classes for all ages from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. The message for both services will be, "Rebuilding" from the Book of Nehemiah. This week is Red, White, and Blue Sunday and all are encouraged to dress patriotically. The Communion Table will be served by Chuck Marion and Brad Frieden. There will be a Children's church for the 10:30 a.m. service led by Randall and Linda Good.

A recorded version of the sermon will also be available for viewing on the Dora Christian Church Facebook group by the morning of Sunday, July 3.

Sullivan said they had already done five post-election audits during the general election in 2020 and eight in the 2020 primary elections.

"But having more VVPATs in each of our counties now allows us to do more in the future," said Sullivan.

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### LaFontaine Christian Church

### North Manchester Missionary Church

The LaFontaine Christian Church pre-records the sermon which is then available for all to view at [www.lafontainechristian.com](http://www.lafontainechristian.com) under the sermons tab, stated Pastor Brad Wright.

### Olive Branch Church of God

Pastor Susan Shambaugh says that her LaFontaine United Methodist Church is showing replay videos on their Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/Lafontaine-United-Methodist-Church>. In-person services start at 9:30 a.m. Sundays.

### Lincolnville United Methodist Church

Lincolnville United Methodist, 5848 E. 500 South, is going back to one worship service. The worship service is at 10 a.m., and Sunday school is at 9 a.m. For more information, email [pastorjohn1954@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjohn1954@gmail.com) or call 260-563-1406.

### Living Faith Lutheran Church

Welcome to our in-person worship service at 10:10 a.m. Sundays at Living Faith Lutheran Church, 242 S. Huntington St. Bible study and Sunday school are at 9 a.m. for all ages. The sanctuary is arranged for social distancing. Masks are encouraged and available. Online services are at 10:10 a.m., with pre-service music at 10 a.m. For virtual services and more information, visit [www.livingfaithwabash.org](http://www.livingfaithwabash.org).

### Manchester Church of the Brethren

Pastor Kurt Borgmann from the Manchester Church of the Brethren stated they will hold a live-stream service at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday by visiting [www.manchestercob.net](http://www.manchestercob.net). Scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on the black button that says, "Manchester CoB YouTube Channel." After the service is finished, one may access a video copy of the live stream in the same way. Another way to access the live stream or posted video: go to YouTube, search "Manchester Church of the Brethren," and click on the circle profile.

### Sweetwater Assembly of God

Streaming services online using the normal service schedule.

### Richvalley United Methodist Church

Worship at Richvalley United Methodist Church begins at 9:30 a.m. Sundays at 290 N. Jefferson St. Sunday school begins at 10:45 a.m. For more information, call 260-563-1033 or email [rvumc@hotmail.com](mailto:rvumc@hotmail.com).

### Southside Free Will Baptist

Streaming on their Facebook page.

### St. Patrick's Church

The historic St. Patrick's Church, 950 Main St., Lagro, will hold mass days on July 3, Aug. 7, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Nov. 6 and Dec. 4. All masses begin at 11 a.m. The Lagro 950 Speakeasy Bistro opens at 11 a.m. for an after-mass lunch at 950 Washington St., Lagro.

### Walk by Faith Community Church

At the Walk by Faith Community Church in Roann, Sunday school begins at 9 a.m. and the worship and children's worship services begin at 10 a.m. The Walk by Faith Youth ministry meets at 5 p.m. every Sunday. "All are welcomed and we would love for you to join us," said Pastor Judy Tyner. For more information, visit [www.walkbyfaithcommunitychurch.com](http://www.walkbyfaithcommunitychurch.com).

Stephen Eberhard is the Minister.

### Wabash Church of the Brethren

At Wabash Church of the Brethren, 645 Bond St., services will be at 10:30 a.m. Sunday in person. Masks are recommended. There is no children's church or Sunday school at this time. You may reach Pastor Doug Veal at the church office, 260-563-5291, on his cell phone at 260-225-3014, or by email at [pastordoug@wabashcob.org](mailto:pastordoug@wabashcob.org).

### Wabash Church of the Nazarene

Pastor Kirk Johnson, of the Wabash Church of the Nazarene, stated their service is available on YouTube on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Find it by going to YouTube and searching for "Wabash Nazarene" or searching Facebook for the Wabash Church of the Nazarene. Another option is to visit [www.wabashnaz.com](http://www.wabashnaz.com), look for the home page, and find "Latest Sermon."

### Wabash First Church of God

On Sunday, July 3 at Wabash First Church of God, 525 N. Miami St., at the 10:30 a.m. worship service, Pastor Robb Rensberger will speak on, "Singspiration," with singing, readings and a devotional. The sermon may also be seen on YouTube under Wabash 1st Church and heard at 11 a.m. Sunday on 105.9 FM. Sunday servants are Dorothy Carpenter, chairperson; Sherry Whitt, worship; Rose Sands, organ; and Nancy Kolb, piano.

### Zion Lutheran Church of Wabash

Pastor Jerry Gauthier says that the Zion Lutheran Church of Wabash is streaming through their Facebook page at [www.facebook/zionwabash](https://www.facebook/zionwabash) at 10:30 a.m. Sundays.

*Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.*

## VOTING

From page A1

in securing our elections."

The funding, approved by the State Budget Committee, totals \$12.3 million and will allow the Secretary of State's office to purchase 5,033 VVPATs for 45 counties by the 2024 election.

In response to a Plain Dealer request, director of communications Allen Carter said Wabash County uses voting machines that require VVPATs, and that some of the machines were already equipped.

Carter said as of the most recent count, Wabash County has 44 voting machines that will receive VVPATs from this purchase.

In February, Wabash County Clerk Lori Draper said they already "have a few machines that the state purchased."

"We have not used them yet. We will use them sometime," said Draper.

During the 2022 legislative session, the Indiana General Assembly passed Sullivan's legislative proposal, requiring

counties that use a direct record electronic voting system to utilize a VVPAT by July 1, 2024.

"Paper trails boost voter confidence by allowing Hoosiers to independently verify their vote was correctly recorded. Additionally, the paper trails allow for more robust post-election audits and improve the recount process," said Carter.

During her visit to Wabash in December 2021, Sullivan said that while this equipment was not yet introduced during the pandemic for general use, it was "encouraging that you have voters already asking for that."

Sullivan said that when this was rolled out it would be "a voter confidence tool."

Sullivan said that when this was rolled out it would be "a voter confidence tool."

Implementing that next year through your local office will then give us two new aspects. One is the voter confidence that when you push the buttons on your Microvote (direct-recording electronic) voting machine, you will then have the paper printout to verify your vote and have the opportunity to change anything

right then and there if it's not printed the way that you felt was capturing your vote. (You will) be able to update it on-site with a local poll worker and then cast your vote, (and) watch it, as a confidence issue, be counted," said Sullivan.

The second part of that is since we have a

# Opinion

## SPEAK UP

How to contact  
your legislators:

**U.S. Sen. Todd Young,  
R-Ind.**  
B33 Russell Senate  
Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
1-202-224-5623  
<http://young.senate.gov/contact>

**U.S. Sen. Mike Braun,  
R-Ind.**  
B85 Russell Senate  
Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-4814  
<http://braun.senate.gov/>

**U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski,  
R-District 2**  
419 Cannon House  
Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-3915

**State Sen. Andy Zay,  
R-District 17**  
Indiana Senate  
200 W. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
1-800-382-9467  
[Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov](mailto:Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov)

**State Rep. Craig Snow,  
R-District 18**  
Indiana House  
200 W. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
1-800-382-9841  
[h18@in.gov](mailto:h18@in.gov)

To email any  
Indiana lawmaker,  
go to this website:  
[www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl](http://www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl)

## LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



## DAILY SCRIPTURE

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

**Proverbs 3:5-6**

## Trump's corruption on Jan. 6 becomes clearer in new testimony

The depth of former President Donald Trump's election corruption came into much sharper focus Tuesday at the surprise House Select Committee on Jan. 6 hearing.

Trump's defenders have said he did nothing criminal in trying to overturn the 2020 president election, because he actually believed he had won.

But the testimony at Tuesday's dramatic hearing showed otherwise, reinforcing previous testimony that showed Trump was repeatedly told he'd lost.

Among other crucial revelations, Cassidy Hutchinson, an aide to former White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows, testified Trump knew his followers were armed yet encouraged them to march on the Capitol from his "Stop the Steal" rally on the Ellipse.

"I don't f---ing care that they have weapons," Hutchinson recalled Trump saying that day, in a videotaped deposition she gave to the committee that was played at Tuesday's hearing. "They're not here to hurt me. Take the fing mags (magnetometers used to screen for weapons) away. Let my people in. They can march to the Capitol from here."

Trump didn't want his supporters screened for AR-15s, handguns or other weapons – because "they're not here to hurt me."

Who did he think they were there to hurt?

With a calm and collected demeanor, Hutchinson gave a vivid and riveting insider's account of how Rudy Giuliani and Meadows knew ahead of time that violence was likely on Jan. 6 and that Meadows said "things might get real, real bad." Hutchinson also confirmed earlier reports that Trump thought then-Vice President Mike Pence deserved to hang

for refusing to upend the counting of electoral votes in the Senate.

Hutchinson also added an insider's view to the timeline showing how Trump refused to ask the insurrectionists to go home. She painted a portrait of what author Carl Bernstein, after hearing her testimony about Trump throwing plates in the White House, called "a mad king" and seditious president desperately refusing to give up power.

Taken together with the volumes of evidence the committee already has amassed, it adds up to corrupt intent on the part of Trump and his allies. We heard from Hutchinson about Trump allegedly demanding to be taken to the Capitol after his speech at the Ellipse and trying to grab the steering wheel from a Secret Service agent who was bringing him to the White House instead.

If Hutchinson's story is accurate – remember, she and the rest of the committee's witnesses are testifying under oath – Trump clearly knew his presence at the Capitol could further inflame the crowd, which he evidently wanted.

On Tuesday, we also heard Rep. Liz Cheney, R-Wyo., vice chairwoman of the committee, raise concerns about possible witness tampering.

The mounting evidence tells us Trump clearly understood he was out to prevent the peaceful transition of power after losing the 2020 presidential election. We learned more Tuesday about what Trump knew and when he knew it. We hope Hutchinson's testimony will encourage those who have refused to tell what they know to come forward, including Meadows, whom she portrayed as virtually sitting by rather than acting to protect Congress.

Instead, she said, Meadows, along with Giuliani, sought par-

dons from Trump after the Capitol assault.

Each of the committee's hearings has shown, repeatedly, that Trump was more deeply involved than previously realized and was passive when he should have been actively trying to calm the crowds.

As John Dean, a star witness in the Watergate hearings a half-century ago, said on Tuesday, Trump and his allies radiated misbehavior.

Republicans who refused in the early part of Trump's tenure to acknowledge his unstable behavior because he gave them what they wanted stand further indicted after Tuesday's hearing. They also are to blame for refusing to remove Trump from office when he was impeached a second time after the Jan. 6 assault.

They ducked their responsibility to send a signal that future coup attempts will not be tolerated, and that our democracy is more important than an unhinged leader's power-hungry ego.

We have yet to learn whether the U.S. Justice Department will prosecute Trump. Lawyers and governmental institutionalists say it's not an easy call to indict a former president.

Yet it is becoming increasingly clear how narrowly the nation escaped a coup. To avoid another attempt in the future, legislation must be enacted that adds protections to electoral laws. Voters must keep election deniers from becoming the backbone of the Republican Party. Insiders who engaged in trying to bring democracy to a halt should suffer penalties sufficient to deter others from attempting coups.

America ought to be a beacon of democracy. Trump and his allies tried to extinguish that light.

This editorial was first published in the Chicago Sun-Times.

## Nothing is more patriotic than paying your fair share

By RON GUILLOT

This Fourth of July will be celebrated by a nation in conflict, more politically divided than it's been since the Civil War. In virtually every community, the rift has grown wider and more contentious, with less common ground. But while reasonable people may disagree about certain political issues, most genuinely want what's best for their country.

Most, but not all. There is a substantial group of rich Americans who are proud to wrap themselves in the flag and declare their love for the country while at the same time using their wealth and power to manipulate the government to their ends. These millionaires and billionaires are happy to destabilize our democracy, sponsor extremists, and undermine the will of the people if it means further enriching themselves.

The worst part is that they have succeeded. Our laws and regulations overwhelmingly favor the rich and powerful, and the tax code, one of the federal government's most important tools for structuring our economy, gives the ultra-rich massive discounts and loopholes while putting the majority of the burden of funding our country on working families.

If we want to unite our country and bring people together to find a common path forward, we need to reclaim the idea of what it means to be a patriot. It doesn't mean wearing a flag pin or supporting the government no matter what. It means putting the well-being of your country and your countrymen ahead of your own.

For rich people, it means embracing your responsibility to give back to the country that has made it possible for you to be so successful in the first place and pay your taxes.

As a wealthy American, I'm a member of a group called the Patriotic Millionaires. The name is a bit in-your-face, but it was a deliberate choice to put "patriotic" in our name to take back the definition of what it means to be patriotic from the misguided "pull yourself up by your bootstraps" idea that has become so pervasive in our country, especially within the majority of rich circles.

We believe that paying our fair share in taxes to our country is core to our patriotism, and we actively fight to raise taxes on ourselves and our wealthy peers. Unlike so many rich people who use their money and influence to shape the government in a way that ensures their gain at the expense of the country, we want to use our power to create a better future for all Americans, not just rich people like us.

The wealthy people who try to avoid paying taxes often attempt to defend themselves by saying they wouldn't mind paying more so long as it went to causes they believed in. But that's not how democracy works. In our republic, we send our tax dollars to our elected officials, who vote on how to spend them. If we, the people, don't like what they spend them on, then we collectively vote them out. In short, no individual taxpayer can attach strings to their tax dollars, no matter how wealthy they are.

The belief that many rich people have, that they know how to spend their money better or more effective than those who elect our representatives, is misguided. It is also incredibly arrogant of them to think they know what's best for everyone just because they have money. This mindset is the last gasp of an old elite class desperate to cling to the vestiges of the unequal system that propelled them forward at the expense of keeping everyone else down.

Leaving the critical systems that millions of Americans depend on in their everyday lives, such as education or infrastructure, up to the whims of a few wealthy elites instead of a democratically-elected body of representatives is unpatriotic and irresponsible. Doing so would be treating America as an oligarchy instead of a democracy.

Real patriotism is recognizing that your country gave you an immense opportunity to succeed and doing what you can to ensure every American can have that same chance. Patriotism is about what you're willing to give up for your country, what you're ready to sacrifice with no gain or return. Refusing to make that sacrifice unless several specific conditions you decide on are met is the furthest thing from a selfless act to support the country as you can. Nothing is less patriotic than refusing to contribute to your country unless it benefits you.

This Independence Day, as we remember the millions of people who have sacrificed so much to get our country to where it is today, it's time for the American people to start expecting more from wealthy Americans. If this group of rich folks cares about this country as much as they say, they can start by paying their taxes.

Ron Guillot is the vice president of sales at Heart Beam and an investor in equities, options, and direct start-ups. He is a member of the Patriotic Millionaires.



## Celebrating the American farmer

I like to describe the American farmer as a true conservationist and an incredible ambassador for our country. One who cares for the land for this – and future generations. As farmers across the country are monitoring the progress of their 2022 crops, we must pause for a moment and salute and thank the first conservationist – the American farmer. The men and women, here in Indiana, work day in and day out to conserve and protect the natural resources 365 days of the year to ensure the soil is ready for that next planting season. What a perfect time to celebrate Hoosier farmers than during the nation's birthday weekend.

As we reflect on the technological advances in agriculture, we have continually learned better ways to protect the land, water, and air we all depend on to live by using modern production tools such as global positioning satellites, biotechnology, conservation tillage and integrated pest management. American farmers daily live the message of "natural resource management" because they reside and work on the land.

America's agricultural producers sincerely depend on the earth's productivity to support their families and to provide food, feed, fiber, and fuel for the entire

world. Farmers continually learn better ways to grow crops and seek improved methods for raising livestock. To assure an abundant food supply and a sustainable fuel and fiber industry, we all know we must first conserve natural resources. Farmers appreciate the fragility of natural resources and know it is important to safeguard the environment for generations to come.

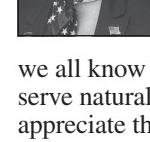
Having grown up on the farm and still living there today, I have a great passion for agriculture and the American farmer. And, as an employee of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency, I have an even deeper appreciation for those farmers who work closely with the Agency staff at the local level. A farmer's watchfulness and care of the natural resources and livestock that inhabit the earth, allows him to feed, clothe and provide the fuel, not only for America but for the world. As we pause to thank the American farmer during this time of year, we are reminded that they are always looking for better, cleaner ways to care for the entire globe.

Farmers understand the day-to-day rhythms of the Earth because they spend each day in nature. Agricultural land offers 75 percent of the nation's habitat. Decisions by the American farmer are based upon the weather, the soil, the grass, the wind, and the wildlife – and each of these is ever-changing. Conservation tillage, a method of farming that reduces soil loss on cropland while using less energy, continues to grow across this country. As farmers increasingly integrate precision agriculture practices into their operations, we have seen farm productivity increase in the last 60 years while the use of resources, such as labor, seed, feed, and fertilizer, has declined; leading to a shrinking environmental footprint for food and fiber production in the United States. These are the reasons American agriculture is the envy of the world.

So, during this fourth of July weekend, as you partake in hometown parades, eat the delicious barbecue, ribeyes and watermelon, and celebrate all things red, white and blue, remember to celebrate the Hoosier farmer for all they do for this country and world.

Julia Wickard is the executive director of the Indiana Farm Service Agency.

Julia  
Wickard





Provided photos

All of the NMPL's summer programs are free to attend and are open to the public, whether or not they have an NMPL library card, or whether or not they sign up for summer reading.

## LIBRARIES

From page A1

they spend reading and offers rewards for reaching milestones along the way.

"Wabash offers so many activities for families in the summer. We appreciate and celebrate that hundreds in our community have chosen reading and joining us at various events as one of their activities of choice," said youth services librarian Polly Howell.

Castle said special programming, including Wednesday morning programs sponsored by the Community Foundation of Wabash County (CFWC), "have drawn great crowds of kids."

"Storytimes for children and craft nights for teens and adults have also been popular draws," said Castle. "More programming will continue into July, as well."

July programs at the WCPL include:

■ Mystery Maker Bags for elementary kids on Tuesdays, July 5 and 12; Fridays, July 8 and 15: Mystery Maker Bags are available in the Children's Room beginning at 9 a.m. while supplies last. There is a limit of five bags per group and a child must be present to collect the bags.

■ Storytimes for ages 0 to 6 years on Thursdays, July 7 and 14. Early Stages Storytime takes place at 10 a.m. for children ages 0 to 3 years old. Discovery Storytime takes place at 11 a.m. for children ages 3 to 6 years old.

■ Teen Crafts for grades six to 12 at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, July 7 and 14: Crafts will include shell necklaces and decorative jellyfish. Teens who cannot attend craft nights in person can request a craft kit through the library's website or in the children's room.

■ Kids Book Club at 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 11: "The Puffin Keeper" by Michael Morpurgo will be discussed. This is for all kids who read chapter books. Following a brief discussion of the book, there will be snacks and a craft inspired by the book.

■ Puppets & Popcorn at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 12: A

puppet show and popcorn for families.

■ WCPL Book Club at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 13: "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt will be discussed. This is intended for adults. A few free copies of the book are still available at the Circulation Desk for this discussion.

■ D&D @ WCPL at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 14 on roll20.net: Interested parties should email cody@wabash.lib.in.us for more information on joining our D&D campaign online.

■ Party in the Park at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, July 16: Intended for kids, we will meet in the main pavilion at the Wabash City Park to celebrate all of the milestones participants have reached during Summer Reading. The event will include snacks, games, a puppet show and fun with bubbles.

For more information, visit www.wabash.lib.in.us.

### NMPL

North Manchester Public Library (NMPL) adult department and marketing coordinator Jeanna Hann said July promises to be another busy month full of summer fun.

"Our Summer Reading program continues through July 30," said children's department manager Sarah Morbitzer. "We've been absolutely delighted with how the program has motivated our patrons to read this summer, and we look forward to seeing even more patrons complete the program in July."

Hann said as of mid-June, the NMPL reported almost 700 patrons had signed up for the Summer Reading Program and had read over 200,000 minutes.

"Absolutely everyone is welcome," said Magnus.

July programs at the NMPL include:

■ Morning at the Movies: "Turning Red" at 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 6: "A hot summer morning is the perfect time to gather a few friends and watch an exciting movie," said Hann. "Come to the library Blocher Room for hot popcorn and a showing of 'Turning Red,' a fun film for the whole family."

■ NMPL at the North Manchester Farmer's Market from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 9: "Join the library at the local Farmer's Market, located at Ogden's Landing, for a fun



Discovery Storytime takes place at 11 a.m. Thursdays, July 7 and 14 at the WCPL for children ages 3 to 6 years old.



As of mid-June, the NMPL reported almost 700 patrons had signed up for the Summer Reading Program and had read over 200,000 minutes.

Hann said reading isn't all the library has on the agenda.

"We're super excited for our lineup of July programs," said programming coordinator Molly Magnus. "We're bringing back some old favorites, but also introducing a few new events that we know everyone will love."

Hann said all of the NMPL's summer programs are free to attend and are open to the public, whether or not they have an NMPL library card, or whether or not they sign up for summer reading.

■ Colleen Coble Book Signing and Q&A at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, July 9: "Best-selling author Colleen Coble is an American Christian author of romance, romantic suspense and historical fiction. Her thirty-five novels and novellas have sold a total of about 2 million copies, and have received numerous awards, including the Romance Writers of America prestigious RITA, the Holt Medallion, the ACFW Book of the Year, the Daphne du Maurier, National Readers' Choice, the Booksellers Best and the 2009 Best Books of Indiana-Fiction award," said Hann. "Meet the celebrated author in person at the NMPL. Coble will be here for a special book signing and Q&A that you won't want to miss."

■ Turn Yourself Into A Superhero Day at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 13: "You bring the ideas, we'll bring

morning of fresh produce, handicrafts and superhero scavenger hunts," said Hann. "Search throughout the market for the hidden superheroes. Find them all and earn tokens to trade in for goodies from the vendors."

■ Interactive Movie - "Megamind" at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 20: "Join us for a special interactive showing of Megamind. We promise, you've never watched this movie like this before," said Hann. "Enjoy free Superman Water Ice, play with glow sticks, form your own superhero out of play-doh, help Megamind and



Teen Crafts for grades six to 12 have been planned for 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, July 7 and 14. Crafts will include shell necklaces and decorative jellyfish. Teens who cannot attend craft nights in person can request a craft kit through the library's website or in the children's room.

the supplies," said Hann. "Become your favorite superhero by personalizing your own cape, mask, and cuffs. Enjoy yard games on the lawn and zooming around in all your superhero glory."

■ Summer Reading Party at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 27:

"Celebrate another incredible summer of reading with all kinds of outdoor fun. We'll have a giant inflatable obstacle course, wading pools, a dunk tank and more," said Hann.

For more information, visit www.nman.lib.in.us.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

## FUNDRAISER

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have paid the ultimate sacrifice and will not be there to watch one of the most important events in their children's lives. This helps make it easier on the families of those who served honorably and selflessly."

The event is intended as a cross-section of fundraising and providing an unforgettable experience for those in the community. Prage commented that the event is expecting a lower turnout than other events organized by Prage due to the nature of skydiving, but he continued to express that every cent matters and community members should overcome fears of heights or airplanes to delve into the meaning of the event or donate.

"We all have seen by now the tremendous impact that war has had on our military families," said Prage.



Courtesy of Michael Prage

Prage prepares to skydive to raise funds for veteran families.

"Helping with scholarships to further education takes a huge financial worry off the ones that need it most."

Prage has organized several charity events for different organizations within

the past years, such as a charity event for foster children and families where he simulated a climb of Mt. Everest. Prage stressed that the skydiving event is similar in scope to his previous

events, but he stressed that the mission of the event is beyond him and can only be accomplished with the help of the community.

"I'm the one putting it on, but I have support from the

Folds of Honor and Skydive Indianapolis," said Prage. "I have another guy that is willing to donate \$1,000 per jumper, so we are trying to get more people to jump to drum up more money for Folds of Honor."

Prage recommended for community members who wish to participate but possess a fear of skydiving to donate to the cause. Prage and Folds of Honor expect that the event will expand in the future and more members of the community will participate.

"I don't think we're going to have that many jumpers. It takes a certain person to jump out of an airplane. Hopefully, we can get people to donate and get people stirred up for next year," said Prage. "Next year will be even bigger. We're just trying to get our feet wet and get one started so we can branch off from that next year."

Select bookings for mili-

tary members are available, and Skydive Indianapolis stressed that all participants must be at least 18 years old and weigh under 200 pounds to jump.

Participants are encouraged to visit www.skydiveindianapolis.com/en/prices to hold their place with a \$50 deposit that will be refunded when the participant arrives for their scheduled jump time. Then, participants will be instructed to pay for the jump and encouraged to make a donation at indiana.foldsofhonor.org or www.fourcornersoutdoor.com.

Participants are encouraged to consistently monitor the indiana.foldsofhonor.org website and Folds of Honor Facebook page for updates as the event draws closer. Weather concerns may delay jump times.

Carl Gingerich, Frankfort Times editor, may be reached by email at cggingerich@ftimes.com.

# In this dry season, we must look to God, who will bring the rain

By STEPHEN EBERHARD

**Z**echariah 10:1-2: "Ask rain from the Lord in the season of the spring rain, from the Lord who makes the storm-clouds, who gives showers of rain to you, the vegetation in the field to everyone. 2 For the terrible utter nonsense, and the diviners see lies; the dreamers tell false dreams and give empty consolation. Therefore the people wander like sheep; they suffer for lack of a shepherd."

There was a time when I really hated the rain. It would always cancel events, make it harder to drive and make me cold and soaking wet. I often don't have fond memories of rain and more often than not people negatively associate rain with phrases like, "when it rains it pours," "don't rain

on my parade," and so on.

Rain always seems to get such a bad rap ... until this summer. This summer has been brutal and hot, to say the least. Temperatures reaching some 100-plus with heat advisories warning us to limit time outside. Weeks go by without any rain causing lawns, plants, and fields to dry up and die. We find ourselves in a little bit of a drought.

But we aren't just finding ourselves in a literal drought, we are also finding ourselves in a spiritual drought. People are struggling to find hope in such a world. We are bombarded with suffering. War in Ukraine has destroyed a country and put the world on edge. Economic hardships with prices of everything on the rise put a tremendous burden on families. Mass shootings in our schools that has resulted

in 27 people dying, 24 being children.

Oh, how the well is running dry. As a result, we've looked in so many wrong places. We look on Facebook, which is only filled with negativity, division and hate. We look to political figures who never seem to be able to agree on anything or come up with any solutions leaving us to suffer more. Zealots attempt to flood the narrative with negativity blaming this group or that group or this church or that church. The fields have dried out leaving us a dead people where nothing is capable of growing. Lost sheep without a shepherd.

But that is the beauty of this text. Even though we find ourselves dried out, divided, and misguided, hope can remain if we look in the right place.

Ask rain from the Lord in

the season of the spring rain, from the Lord who makes the storm clouds, who gives showers of rain to you, the vegetation in the field to everyone.

In this dry season, we must look to God, who will bring the rain, water our fields, and fill our wells that will overflow. In looking to God for hope, we no longer become a lost people but are given a shepherd, Jesus Christ, to guide us to water. In looking to God, we will gain the ability to embody God demonstrating the amazing love that God has for us.

God comes to us as farmers in the field, we pray for the rain to cleanse us, nourish us, to provide us relief from the unbearable heat that has caused such thirst and exhaustion. God provides the rain that falls on our field

and gives us the nourishment we so desperately need. As the rains pour on us, it gives us the ability to till, plow, and harvest, so the kingdom of God may be lived and experienced. Yes, it goes beyond prayer and rain, God still needs the farmer for the field, but it is God who guides us and provides so we may have the ability to do so. This is where hope is found, this is where nourishment is given so the bounty can be great and provide for all. I'd ask that you join me in prayer as we continue through this summer, prayer for the rain, prayer for hope and prayer for all to be nourished in this dry season.

I'd like to close this sermonette with a poem I read that spoke to me. It is by Brad Peacock with the title, "Let It Rain."

"I'm not sure why I did my best to outrun you. Perhaps I had forgotten how your touch makes me feel alive, like the gentle hands of my husband reaching out to console me. I smile, feeling the first drops from the sky igniting my senses, calling forth my inner child who wants more, to feel it pour. This is not a shower that will extinguish the light I've found within. It is a rain that will soak me through, down to bone, baptizing me again and again, as I walk these gravel roads that have helped me heal. Droplets now fall from the brim of my hat, streaming down my cheeks like the time I cried out, begging for the shame to subside, wondering if I had the strength to live this life anymore."

Stephen Eberhard is the pastor of Wabash Christian Church.

## Salamonie Preschool offers 'F is for Frog' on July 20

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool's "F is for Frog" from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 20 at Salamonie Interpretive Center in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, 3691 S. New Holland Road, Andrews, according to interpretive naturalist Teresa Rody.

Rody said children ages 2 to 5 and their adults are welcome to attend the class.

"What food do frogs eat and who are they food for?"

said Rody. "Each program is designed to enhance the preschooler's basic education, including music, crafts, social interaction and time outdoors, always with a nature-related theme."

The program fee is \$2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling Upper Wabash Interpretive Services at 260-468-2127.

For more information, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

## Indiana report shows 8.5% increase in abortions during 2021

By ARLEIGH RODGERS

Associated Press/  
Report for America

INDIANAPOLIS — The number of abortions performed in Indiana rose by 8.5 percent last year, according to a state report released Friday as state lawmakers are expected to soon debate tighter anti-abortion laws following the U.S. Supreme Court's decision eliminating the constitutional right to abortion.

An annual report from

the Indiana Department of Health shows 8,414 abortions were performed in the state during 2021. That's 658 more than the 7,756 abortions during 2020 in Indiana, which was 1.6 percent above 2019's 7,637.

Drug-induced abortions in 2021 also comprised about 56 percent of Indiana abortions, an slight increase from 2020, when for the first time they accounted for a majority in the state at 55 percent, about doubling the 2016 rate.

will add the same days and hours that the North Manchester office will be losing, including 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the first, third and fifth Thursdays of each month.

"Up to now, the Wabash clinic was closed during those hours so staff could be in North Manchester," said Boxell. "Participants will continue to be served by other area clinics."

Boxell said they would also add hours at the Wabash office to compensate for the closure. The Wabash office

is welcome to dress up in red, white and blue, decorate strollers and wagons or walk in the parade waving

flags," said BABE of Wabash County executive director Katelyn Till.

Till said no registration is required for this free event. However, an adult must accompany children under the age of 12.

"After the parade, families can stay on Hill Street and enjoy a block party-like festival with activities and food provided by several businesses on Hill Street," said Till.

include the Wabash Carnegie Public Library (WCPL), Wabash Christian Church, Wabash Presbyterian Church, The Montessori School at Wabash Presbyterian Church, Babe of Wabash County, Common Grounds and Purdue Extension of Wabash County.

For more information, email babeofwabashinc@gmail.com.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

## FIREWORKS

From page A1

when discharging fireworks. Close supervision of all children around fireworks will help prevent subsequent injury."

Benson said residents may use fireworks on their property or have received permission from the property owner. Residents must be at least 18 years old to possess or use fireworks unless a responsible adult is present.

Benson said the times for legal consumer fireworks discharges include 9 a.m. to midnight on holidays including Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and New Year's Eve. Fireworks may be discharged between 9 a.m. and 11 p.m. on all other days.

Wabash City Hall and all non-essential departments of the city will be closed Monday, July 4 for the Independence Day holiday. All city offices will re-open at 8 a.m. Tuesday, July 5.

Also, this weekend, several organizations along Hill Street in downtown Wabash are planning to celebrate the Independence Day holiday with a children's parade.

Parade lineup will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 2 in the parking lot of Wabash County CASA, 10 W. Hill St. The parade will then start at 10:30 a.m. The route will travel down Hill Street, starting at Wabash Street and ending at Cass Street.

"Families with children are welcome to dress up in red, white and blue, decorate strollers and wagons or walk in the parade waving

flags," said BABE of Wabash County executive director Katelyn Till.

Till said no registration is required for this free event. However, an adult must accompany children under the age of 12.

"After the parade, families can stay on Hill Street and enjoy a block party-like festival with activities and food provided by several businesses on Hill Street," said Till.

Till said organizations participating in the event

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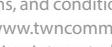
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# Church Directory

## ASSEMBLY OF GOD

**Sweetwater Assembly of God**, 2551 SR 114 E, North Manchester. (260) 982-6179. Sunday worship 9am & 10:45am. Sunday evening outreach groups & youth ministry 5-7pm. Wednesday 6:30pm adult/teen bible study, 6:30pm Kidz Zone (K thru 6th grade). All worship services streaming online and on our Facebook page.

## BAPTIST

**Southside Free Will Baptist**, 360 Columbus Street. Pastor Tim Webb. Sunday School 10am. Worship Service 11am. Sunday Evening 6pm. Wednesday Evening 6pm. Sunday worship services streaming online

**Wabash Free Will Baptist Church**, 1056 Erie Street. Wednesday evening prayer meeting 6pm. Sunday School 10am, Church 11am; evening service 6pm.

## CATHOLIC

**St. Bernard Catholic Church**, corner of Cass & Sinclair. Fr. Jay Horning. Masses: Saturday 5:30 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m.; Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 5:30 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday at 8:15 a.m.

**St. Patrick's Catholic Church**, Main Street in Lagro Mass Time: 11 a.m. First Sunday of the month throughout the year except January and February. Let us worship together.

## CHRISTIAN CHURCH

**Christian Heritage Church**, 2776 River Road. (260) 569-7710. Pastor Tim Prater. Sunday 8:30am. Radio Ministry 95.9 WKUZ. Sunday School 9:30am. Morning Service 10:30am. Sunday evening 6pm. Wednesday evening 6pm. Online services on Sunday at 10:30 am and Wednesday 6:00 pm

**LaFontaine Christian Church**, 202 Bruner Pike, LaFontaine Minister Brad Wright. (765) 981-2101. Worship 9am & 10:30am, Nursery & Jr. Church available. Online Services available on our website

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Church of Christ**, Wabash (corner of N Wabash Street and US 24). Evangelist Josh Fennell (260) 563-8234. Sunday School 9am. Morning Worship 10am. Evening Worship 6:30pm. Wednesday Service 7pm. Wednesday Kid's Jam 7pm.

## CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

**Wabash Church of the Brethren**, 645 Bond Street (off Falls Avenue). Pastor Doug Veal. (260) 563-5291. Wherever you are on life's journey, come join us as we continue the work of Jesus...Peacefully, Simply, Together. Sunday School 9:30am. Worship 10:30am. Children's church and nursery available during worship. Online Service through website or conference call.

## DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

**Wabash Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**, 110 W. Hill St., Wabash; Stephen Eberhard, Minister; phone: 260-563-4179; website: www.wabashchristian.org. Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Nursery provided. Find us on YouTube and Facebook.

## FRIENDS CHURCH

**Wabash Friends Church**, 3563 S State Rd 13. (260) 563-8452. Lead Pastor, Brandon Eaton. Join us for in-person worship at 8:30AM or 10:45AM, or via live-stream on Facebook at 10:45AM. Children's programming available infants - 6th grade. Sunday school for all ages at 9:45AM. Youth (7th-12th) Sunday evenings at 6:30PM.



## INDEPENDENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

**Bachelor Creek Church of Christ**, 4 miles north of Wabash on St. Rd. 15; phone 260-563-4109; website: bachelorcreek.com; Worship Minister - Michael Eaton, Student Minister - David Diener, Children's Minister - Tyler Leland, Middle School & Small Groups Minister - Nate Plyler, Next Steps & Outreach Minister - Ryan Keim, Women's Director- Taylor McFarland, Early Childhood Director - Janet Legesse. Worship 9:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

## LUTHERAN

**Living Faith Lutheran Church (NALC)**, 242 S. Huntington St., Wabash, IN. Worship begins each Sunday morning at 10:10 a.m. with Bible study classes for all ages at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome to join us for worship. Worship Services live streamed on our website. www.LivingFaithWabash.org

**Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA)**, 1500 S Wabash Street. Pastor Dr. Kent Young. (260) 563-6626. We worship our Lord each Sunday at 9:30am with Gospel-based message and Holy Communion. There is a time of fellowship and refreshments immediately following the service. We are handicap accessible and everyone is welcome at Trinity! tlcwabash@gmail.com.

## UNITED METHODIST

**North Manchester United Methodist Church**, 306 E Second Street, North Manchester. Pastor Steve Bahrt. (260) 982-7537. Worship Service 8:15am & 10:30am. Coffee Fellowship 9am. Sunday School 9:30am.

**Richvalley United Methodist Church**, 290 N Jefferson. (260) 563-1033. Pastor Jack Suits. Worship service begins at 9:30am. Nursery available. Sunday School begins at 10:45am for all age.



## PRIORITIES



Some days are productive, exhausting but full of accomplishment. When the day is done, make sure you take some time to refresh and renew. While resting, why not reflect on your spiritual life? Though your daily goals are important, the knowledge of God's will for your life is essential. Renew yourself in worship at God's House, learn His will for you and get your priorities in order.

### Daily Bible Reading

Deut. 31:30-32:27	Deut. 32:28-44	Deut. 32:45-52	Deut. 33:1-17	Deut. 33:18-29	Deut. 34:1-12	Joshua 1:1-18
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Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society X Daily Devotional at DailyBible.AmericanBible.org

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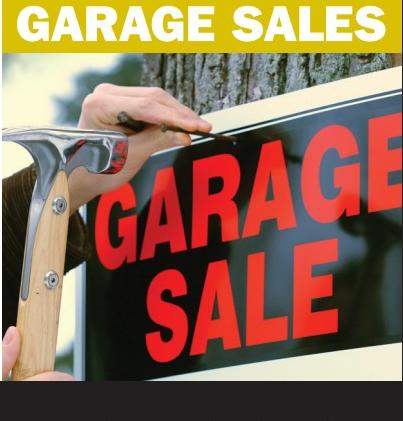
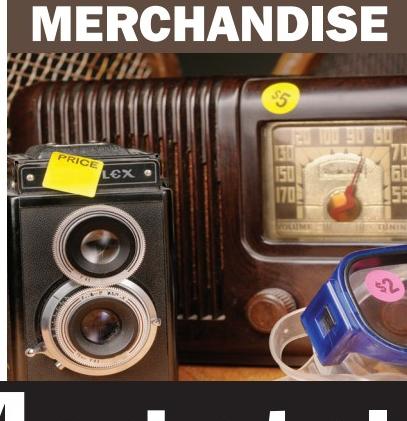
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**How to play:** Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

Today's solution

2	4	5	7	1	6	3	8	9
6	7	9	2	3	8	1	4	5
3	1	8	4	9	5	7	2	6
9	2	1	6	5	3	9	7	4
5	3	7	1	4	9	8	6	2
1	9	2	5	6	7	4	3	8
4	8	3	9	2	1	6	5	7
7	5	6	3	8	4	2	9	1

7			8	4				
	3					7		
		5	6	7				
	7	1			6	2		
8	2					7		
9	6			2	5			
		4	9	5				
6				1				
		7	1				9	

**THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE**

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/2/22

Today's solution



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7/2/22

**ACROSS**  
1 Mayo container  
4 Wide  
9 Lunch spot  
13 Lincoln & others  
15 Bird of prey  
16 Mind  
17 Strong inclination  
18 Michelin products  
19 Cornflower's color  
20 Unquestionably  
22 Takes a bride  
23 "That \_\_\_ it"; cry of frustration  
24 Ram's mate  
26 Embrace  
29 Pedigreed dog  
34 Oscar-winner Jeremy  
35 Proverbial waste maker  
36 "Roses \_\_\_ red..."  
37 Paper shredder?  
38 Hemorrhoids  
39 Brisk pace  
40 Beast of burden  
41 Taxi offerings  
42 Elvis' "Blue \_\_\_ Shoes"  
43 Hired, as a lawyer  
45 Mel or Miguel  
46 Word of disgust  
47 Good wood for boats  
48 Come to shore  
51 Repugnant  
56 Smell  
57 Purple \_\_\_; NH's state flower  
58 Ditty  
60 Unclothed  
61 Clear the slate  
62 Honey factory  
63 Award for "Frasier"  
64 Septic tank alternative  
65 Change hair color  
  
**DOWN**  
1 Poke sharply  
2 Under the covers  
3 City near Lake Tahoe  
5 Pot \_\_\_ beef entree  
29 Grew ashen  
30 Does drugs  
31 More infrequent  
32 Be gradually worn away  
33 Get in the way of  
35 Conceal  
38 Tiny openings

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7/2/22

**Grateful future mom frets over baby shower**

**DEAR AMY:** After many years, and with the help of prayers and science, I am pregnant and – along with my family and friends – looking forward to a celebratory baby shower. My issue is whether I must invite a narcissistic sister-in-law (my brother's wife), or if it is appropriate to only invite her daughters, ages 10 and 14. Over the years my relationship with my SIL has deteriorated to the point that she refuses to speak to me, and we have to have separate family holidays. I would never invite this person to any event, but her daughters and I maintain a loving relationship.

I'm accepting your assumption that things are so bad between you two adults that you consider them intolerable, but understand that as you move forward – now with a child of your own – this practice of celebrating separate holidays, etc., will become even more complicated. Some families do manage to engage in parallel relationships where individuals can gather as part of a group without interacting personally, but if you can't do this, then continue to do your best to have an ongoing healthy and unfettered relationship with your nieces.

**DEAR AMY:** I would like to inform my children of my intended plans for distributing my estate after my death. How can I lovingly bequeath my funds without "ruffling feathers?" I have three daughters. Only one is married, with two children. In preparing my will, I would like to leave each of my grandchildren 2 percent of my remaining funds, and equally split the balance between my three daughters, at 32 percent each.

I'm afraid that one of them will look upon this distribution as her married sibling getting a larger share (believing the 2 percent should come from the married daughter's one-third equitable share).

I would like input from you and readers on my intended plan, and how to overcome any hard feelings on the part of one of my daughters. – Planning

**DEAR PLANNING:** Your planned distribution of your

assets seems equitable and fair. Many people choose to give to grandchildren and other family members separately from their own children. It's your money and you have the right to spend it however you want!

Given how painstakingly you have worked this out, I'm wondering why you feel compelled to share these details with your daughters. You say you want to inform them, and you are obviously anticipating that one of them will object. If so, you should prepare yourself. She will have to recover from her own disappointment. If she remains unattached and childless, then she will be spared at least one experience: the anxiety that you are experiencing now. I'll happily run replies from readers.

**DEAR AMY:** I loved your response to "Tapped Out Teachers" where these retired parents keep giving money to their daughter and granddaughter, and are met with ridiculous responses. I loved that you called out what the daughter "Clare" is: "... an entitled, incompetent, needy and angry adult."

More people like this need to be called out for their behavior. The parents, who give more than they receive, don't deserve this treatment, and neither does the rest of society. – Cheering You On

**DEAR CHEERING:** One concern I had was that the older couple could actually harm their own financial future through this generosity. Financial competency starts in childhood, and when parents teach their children to earn and to spend wisely, these children grow up to be confident, self-supporting (and oftentimes generous) adults.

That education is a true gift.

**HOROSCOPE**

SATURDAY, JULY 2, 2022

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) You are most likely prepared to be practical. At this time, you might notice opportunities to make sensible improvements in your life. Think things through and avoid acting on impulsive decisions today.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)

Breaking up may give you the freedom to explore other options. A friendship may run its course and come to an end. Just because neighbor or friend has something you admire does not mean you need it too.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)

Say what you mean and mean what you say. Your search for the right words to describe your ideals can make you more aware of what you believe. You can develop keen insights and understanding this weekend.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)

You may think that bigger is better and start dreaming of having more space. Overcome a loved one's objections by listening to their wants and needs. An impulsive word or deed can put a solid rela-

tionship in a tailspin.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) Look where you are going to avoid an obstacle. You may be too wrapped up in your own interests to pay attention to someone else. Pay attention to the local discussions because you may hear something of value.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Worrying about something that may never happen only poisons the present. A wise person might give you sound advice that offers you a different viewpoint. A quiet discussion can relieve you of anxieties and insecurities.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Enjoy the known and beloved. You are most comfortable with familiar people and things and may be at a loss when you encounter the unpredictable. Find a quiet place to retreat where you can meditate and get in touch with yourself.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

If you are truthful with yourself, you might realize that you have little reason to criticize someone's decisions. A conversation can clear up your doubts. Enjoy outings and gather-

ings that center on family and friends.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Honor traditions and follow the rules. A partner or loved one might have clear-cut reasons for doing things in their own way. You can certainly express your opinion but please avoid confrontations.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Serendipitous circumstances could bring you the knowledge you need to pull things together. Unexpected changes within the home or family could put you in an awkward position for a short while this weekend.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You may be briefly fired up by the latest cause and glad to lend a hand at a charity event or fundraiser. You may take rules and regulations seriously, making it difficult to relax and socialize in a new environment.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)

A romantic partner can give form and substance to your imaginings. Under some conditions, you can be impulsive this weekend, so you should avoid making big-ticket purchases unless they were part of a pre-existing plan.

# Sports

A11 July 2-3, 2022

 WabashPlainDealer.com

## Southwood varsity baseball puts together a developmental season

The team ended the year with a final record of 5-17-1

By CLAY MAXFIELD

Wabash Plain Dealer Freelance Reporter

Southwood's varsity baseball season ended with a final record of 5-17-1 but from the standpoint of head coach Steve Swinson, the Knights showed improvement from day one.

"We were pretty young this year with two returning varsity play-

ers, the rest were JV last year," Swinson said. "We just continued to work on fundamentals and things that we needed to work on and we improved quite a bit. Our record might not show that to be that great but we saw a vast improvement from our younger kids."

Equipped with three freshmen and seven sophomores, Southwood found productivity from junior Mo Lloyd who finished the season with a .452 batting average while Dalton Barney hit nearly .340 on the year as well.

Lloyd finished his junior outing with 28 hits, 40 runs batted in and

12 home runs.

From Swinson's vantage point, the Knights seem to follow Lloyd's lead as he pointed out that his team's approach in the batter's box stood out as the area that improved the most throughout the year.

"It was more at the plate with the hitting which is probably where we improved the most. Understanding two-strike approach, understanding not trying to pull everything and making sure we're going with the pitch. ... Trying to make decent contact and get those guys to understand if you put the proper swing on it, the ball's gonna fly,"

he said.

Southwood put together a two-game win streak in the opening week of May against North Miami and Whitko before falling into a slump.

The Knights defeated Northfield in their opening post-season game with a final of 10-9, their second victory against the Norse of the season.

From the pitcher's mound, Ryan Deeter led the team in earned run average with 4.25 and 21 strikeouts. Blayne Hamilton and Joey Bland also provided solid efforts on the mound for the Knights when they combined for 46 strikeouts in

nearly 25 innings each.

With an abundance of youth and a year of laying the groundwork amongst their junior varsity and newcomers, Swinson is eager to get back out onto the field.

"Having seven starters return, we've got some kids on our JV that are going to help us a little bit," Swinson said. "Understanding the expectations and what we want from them is going to make the transition a little bit smoother to know where we're at right from the start."

Clay Maxfield, Wabash Plain Dealer freelance reporter, may be reached by email at sports@wabashplaindealer.com.

## Big Ten votes to add USC, UCLA as members starting in 2024

By RALPH D. RUSSO  
and ERIC OLSON

AP College Sports Writers

In a surprising and seismic shift in college athletics, the Big Ten voted Thursday to add Southern California and UCLA as conference members beginning in 2024.

The expansion to 16 teams will happen after the Pac-12's current media rights contracts with Fox and ESPN expire and make the Big Ten the first conference to stretch from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The announcement, which caught the Pac-12 off-guard, came almost a year after Oklahoma and Texas formally accepted invitations to join the Southeastern Conference in July 2025.

Big Ten Commissioner Kevin Warren said USC and UCLA, both members of the Pac-12 and its previous iterations for nearly a century, submitted applications for membership and the league's Council of Presidents and Chancellors voted unanimously to add the Los Angeles schools.

"Ultimately, the Big Ten is the best home for USC and Trojan athletics as we move into the new world of collegiate sports," USC athletic director Mike Bohn said. "We are excited that our values align with the league's member institutions. We also will benefit from the stability and strength of the conference; the athletic caliber of Big Ten institutions; the increased visibility, exposure, and resources the conference will bring our student-athletes and programs; and the ability to expand engagement with our passionate alumni nationwide."

The Big Ten is building on previous expansion into the nation's largest media markets, and the move allows the conference to keep pace with the SEC as one of the most powerful entities in college sports.

The Big Ten will gain blueblood programs in football (USC) and basketball (UCLA) and big-name brands that will enhance the value of the conference's new media rights package currently being negotiated.

Losing flagship schools like USC and UCLA is a ma-



The Big Ten announced Thursday that UCLA and USC will join the conference and begin play in 2024.

jar blow to the Pac-12, which has had a long and amicable relationship with the Big Ten best exemplified by its Rose Bowl partnership.

"While we are extremely surprised and disappointed by the news coming out of UCLA and USC today, we have a long and storied history in athletics, academics, and leadership in supporting student-athletes that we're confident will continue to thrive and grow into the future," the Pac-12 said in a statement.

The Pac-12's next move is unknown, but adding schools to replace USC and UCLA is a possibility.

"We look forward to partnering with current and potential members to pioneer the future of college athletics together," the Pac-12 said.

The Big Ten has expanded twice in recent years, with Nebraska joining in 2011 and Maryland and Rutgers in 2014.

USC and UCLA fit the Big Ten's academic profile. Both schools are among the 65 members of the Association of American Universities, which is made up of top research universities. All Big Ten schools except Nebraska are members.

"From increased exposure

and a broader national platform for our student-athletes, to enhanced resources for our teams, this move will help preserve the legacy of UCLA Athletics for generations to come," UCLA

athletic director Martin Jarmond said.

"We have deeply valued our membership in the Pac-12, and we have great respect for the conference and our fellow member institutions, but each school faces its own unique challenges and circumstances. We believe this is the right move for UCLA at the right time."

USC and UCLA stand to significantly increase their revenues. The Pac-12 distributed only \$19.8 million per school in fiscal year 2021, by far the least among Power 5 conferences.

The Big Ten's per-school distribution was \$46.1 million, second only to the SEC's \$54.6 million.

The Pac-12 has had difficulty getting its conference television network untracked while the Big Ten Network is the most established of the conference networks.

USC and UCLA would be taking a step up in football, both in visibility and competition.

"Pac-12 After Dark" televised games that kick off in the middle to late evenings in most of the country have made it difficult for the conference to get exposure. The Pac-12 has had teams in the College Football Playoff just twice – Oregon (2014 season) and Washington (2016).

USC President Carol L. Folt said she and university leaders considered the coast-to-coast travel that will come

with competing in the Big Ten. Nebraska is the westernmost school in the conference now, and Lincoln is almost 1,500 miles from Los Angeles. Rutgers, the easternmost Big Ten school, is a nearly 5 1/2-hour flight from LA.

"We are fortunate we can spend the next two years working with the conference on travel and scheduling plans," Folt said.

The Big Ten, Pac-12 and Atlantic Coast Conference last August formed an alliance in the wake of Oklahoma and Texas joining the SEC. The conferences said the 41 members would take a collaborative approach to charting the future of athletics.

The three conferences set up scheduling arrangements in some sports and have pooled resources to promote athlete welfare.

Less than a year later, the future of the alliance would appear bleak with the Big Ten taking two of the Pac-12's biggest brands.

USC and UCLA will be severing longstanding conference relationships. USC joined California, Oregon, Oregon State, Stanford, Washington and Washington State in the Pacific Coast Conference in 1922, followed by UCLA in 1928.

They went together in 1959 to the Athletic Association of Western Universities, which became the Pac-8 in 1968, the Pac-10 in 1978 and Pac-12 in 2011.

## Day 2 of free agency: Zach LaVine, Jusuf Nurkic decide to stay put

By TIM REYNOLDS

AP Basketball Writer

Zach LaVine is staying in Chicago. Same goes for Jusuf Nurkic in Portland.

Day 2 of NBA free agency on Friday brought another max deal – this time, going to LaVine, who secured the richest contract in Bulls history when he agreed to a \$215 million, five-year contract.

LaVine technically was a free agent, for about 18 hours. Klutch Sports, which represents LaVine, made the announcement of the max

agreement, with the Bulls able to offer the Olympic gold medalist and two-time All-Star \$56 million more than any other club could this summer.

Nurkic got by far the biggest payday of his career, agreeing to a four-year, \$70 million contract with Portland. The center just completed his eighth NBA season, the last six of those coming with the Trail Blazers, for whom he averaged 15 points and 11.1 rebounds this past season.

Mitchell Robinson is another big man not moving

elsewhere, agreeing Friday to a \$60 million, four-year contract to remain with the New York Knicks.

There are some players who will be changing addresses. Danilo Gallinari, according to a person familiar with his decision, intends to sign a two-year deal with the Eastern Conference champion Boston Celtics – once his waiving by the San Antonio Spurs is completed. Gallinari was sent to San Antonio this week in a trade that brought All-Star guard Dejounte Murray to Atlanta. Another deal that was put

into motion earlier in the week was completed, when five-time All-Star John Wall – bought out by the Houston Rockets – announced he had agreed to a two-year deal with the Los Angeles Clippers. Wall was under contract for \$47.4 million this season, got bought out by Houston for about \$41 million, and will get the \$6.4 million difference from the Clippers. Wall hasn't played in the NBA since April 2021, and has appeared in 82 games, including playoffs, over the last 4 1/2 seasons.

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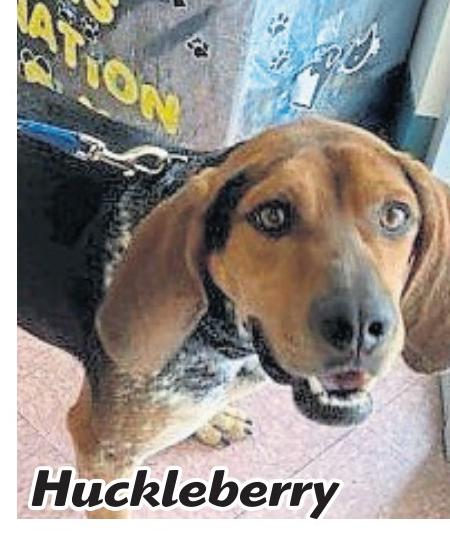
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